

THE WEEKLY SUN.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 17, 1860.

The Slave Movement.

Union meetings have been held in Philadelphia and Boston, and preparations are being made in this city for a similar demonstration. The chief object of these meetings is to show to the people of the Southern States that the people of the North do not desire or support the rebellion as a. of. John Brown, and that they emphatically condemn the foolish conduct of those who seek to elevate him to the rank of a great national martyr; and who would thus induce others to engage in plots hostile to the domestic institutions of the South. It is thought necessary in consequence of the present excited state of the Southern mind, to give public expression to the conservative feelings of the great mass of the Northern people.

These demonstrations may not be entirely free from motives of interest or of party, but the sentiment which they evoke in the popular heart is one of loyalty and devotion to the Union, whatever may be their party predilections, are with indomitable exception, utterly opposed to any sectional or unconstitutional interests with the public rights or the domestic regulations of their brethren in the slave States. They will strews upon every criminal attempt to excite secession movements, and upon all attempts, by whomsoever made, to create sectional strife and end peace the peace of the Union.

But while the conservative men of the free States are coming forward to avow their abhorrence of acts which have unduly alarmed the South, may they not claim from the conservative men of the slave States a like display of patriotic purpose, and of their attachment to the Union?

In the halls of Congress, Southern

representatives have, during the present week spoken not only disinterestedly but incisively of the rights of the people of the free States and Southern journals are laboring to stamp a spirit of unity and of division. If there is no union, there must be reciprocation of friendly feeling and of manly confidence. If harmony between the States is to be preserved, secession doctrines must find as little favor in the South, as do abolition doctrines in the North.

By the rights of the States, by the compromises of the Constitution, the people of the free States will faithfully stand. The honor and the interests of the Union they will zealously support; but, in avowing their sentiments, and their determination to oppose all sectional and treasonable movements, they

should expect that their honest efforts shall not be met with sneering accusations that they are not sincere, and that their professions of friendship shall not be answered by angry retorts and the language of bravado. It is by the spirit of conciliation and mutual confidence that the union of the States can be preserved and perpetuated.

The Distressed State of Europe.

NOTWITHSTANDING the peaceful professions of the European Governments, each is actively preparing for war. The feeling of distrust is general, and in England, strong apprehensions of a war with France exist. As an evidence of these apprehensions, and of their effect, we notice in the English papers an announcement, that the Council of the Society of arts have resolved to postpone their second exhibition of the industry of All Nations until 1862. Their project was to hold it in 1861—a resolution which probably implied that the preparations for it should be made in 1860—but owing to the present disturbed state of Europe, and the probability of the kindling of the flames of war, they desisted it prudent to defer the exhibition.

To whatever part of Europe we look, we find the people agitated by "rumors of war." England is increasing her regular army and enrolling companies of volunteers in all parts of the country. She is also fortifying her coasts and strengthening her navy. France is also increasing her naval strength and adding to her coast defenses. Spain is threatening the empire of Morocco with invasion. Belgium is taking measures to add to her security. Germany has placed her armies on a war footing. Sardinia anticipates a renewal of hostilities, and all Italy is agitated by expectations of a coming conflict. Under such a state of things, it would indeed be idle to invite Europe to an exhibition which could only be successful in a time of peace.

Death of Theodore Sedgwick.

INTELLIGENCE was received in this city on Friday of the death of Hon. THOMAS SANDWICK, United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York, at his country seat, in Stockbridge, Mass., after a long and painful illness. He was the son of Hon. ROBERT SANDWICK, an eminent lawyer of the city. He graduated at Columbia College, and studied law with his father. Shortly after he attained his majority, he was attached to the legation of Hon. EDWARD LIVINGSTON, at Paris, and at the close of his official duties returned to this city, where he practiced his profession until compelled by ill health to abandon it, in 1850.

During his professional career, he was chiefly engaged in heavy marine insurance cases. He was recalled from his retirement in 1850 by President BUCHANAN, who appointed him District Attorney to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of the Hon. JOHN MCNAUL. He had, however, been unable to perform any of the active duties of his office, and for the last six months he has been confined to his bed, suffering from erysipelas. His family and friends have for a number of weeks given up his case as hopeless. He was 48 years of age at the time of his death, and leaves a wife and several children.

Mr. SANDWICK was a man possessed of large native powers of mind, and took a front rank in the practice of his profession. In early life, he wrote a biography of WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, Governor of New Jersey, and more recently collected a edition of the writings of WILLIAM LIVINGSTON. Since his retirement, he has published two important law works, entitled, "Sedgwick on Constitutional Law," and "Sedgwick on Damages."

His death was announced in several of the courts yesterday, and brief addresses were made by leading members of the bar. They eulogized the high character and great attainments of the deceased, saying that the profession would sincerely mourn the loss of one so honored and beloved. The court, in respect to his memory, adjourned over until Monday.

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